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Date of Deposit: 24 January 2003

David Romney
David S. Romney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No: 09/495,886 ✓

Filing Date: 1 February 2000 ✓

Examiner: Mouttet, B.

Inventors: Alfaro et al.

Group Art: 2853

Title: ENHANCEMENT TECHNIQUE FOR ASYMMETRICAL PRINT RESOLUTION ✓

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 24 October 20002, ✓ kindly amend the application as follows:

Please amend claims 1 and 15 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A technique for bilevel printing of an image or figure comprising:
providing an inkjet printhead having a nozzle pitch of a first resolution;
creating a higher resolution bitmap which resolution is greater than the first resolution;
eliminating certain selected alternate pixel rows entirely from the higher resolution
bitmap [thereby] by converting the higher resolution bitmap into a downscaled lower resolution
bitmap having a reduced number of rows available for printing; and

[for] printing the downscaled lower resolution bitmap onto an asymmetrical pixel grid having the first resolution in one axis and the higher resolution in a second axis [, wherein said converting includes applying a depletion pattern only in the axis of higher resolution].

15. (Amended) A method of achieving high quality printing from one or more printheads having a given nozzle pitch resolution, comprising:

creating a first symmetrical bitmap having a resolution which is a multiple of the given nozzle pitch resolution;

transforming the first bitmap by eliminating certain entire pixel rows in order to create [an] a downscaled asymmetrical bitmap having a reduced number of rows available for printing on [a] an asymmetrical pixel grid having a higher resolution in a carriage scan axis and a lower resolution in a media advance axis; and

performing a logical operation on an eliminated pixel row and two of its adjacent pixel rows in order to preserve an “on” pixel from the eliminated pixel row and transfer it to an “off” pixel in one of said two adjacent pixel rows.

Please add new claims 16-20 as follows:

16. (New) The technique of claim 1 wherein said converting includes applying an interior depletion pattern in the axis of higher resolution and a different edge depletion pattern prior to printing..

17. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein said transforming includes applying an interior depletion pattern in the axis of higher resolution and a different edge depletion pattern prior to printing..

18. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein said transforming includes applying a